

Football

...seeking a return to national playoffs



...from club sport
to district power

Soccer



Volleyball

...hoping to continue a winning tradition

About this issue...

The Chart opens its 44th year of publication with a 12-page preview of intercollegiate football, soccer, and volleyball at Missouri Southern.

Stories for this edition were written by A. John Baker, editor-in-chief; Daphne Massa, executive manager; Marty Oetting, managing editor; and Dave Griffith, sports editor. Photographs were taken by Baker, Massa, Joe Grisham, and Debbie Vaughn.

Personality features of Jim Frazier, head football coach; Hal Bodon, head soccer coach; and Pat Lipira, head volleyball coach, are presented in addition to team profiles and histories. The football section is contained in pages 3-6, soccer 7-8, and volleyball 10-11.

The first regular edition of The Chart will be published Thursday, Sept. 8. For additional information, contact The Chart office in H-117.

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The Chart

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The Chart, the official newspaper of Missouri Southern State College, is published weekly, except during holidays and examinations periods, from August through May, by students in communications as a laboratory experience. Views expressed in The Chart do not necessarily represent the opinions of the administration, the faculty, or the student body.

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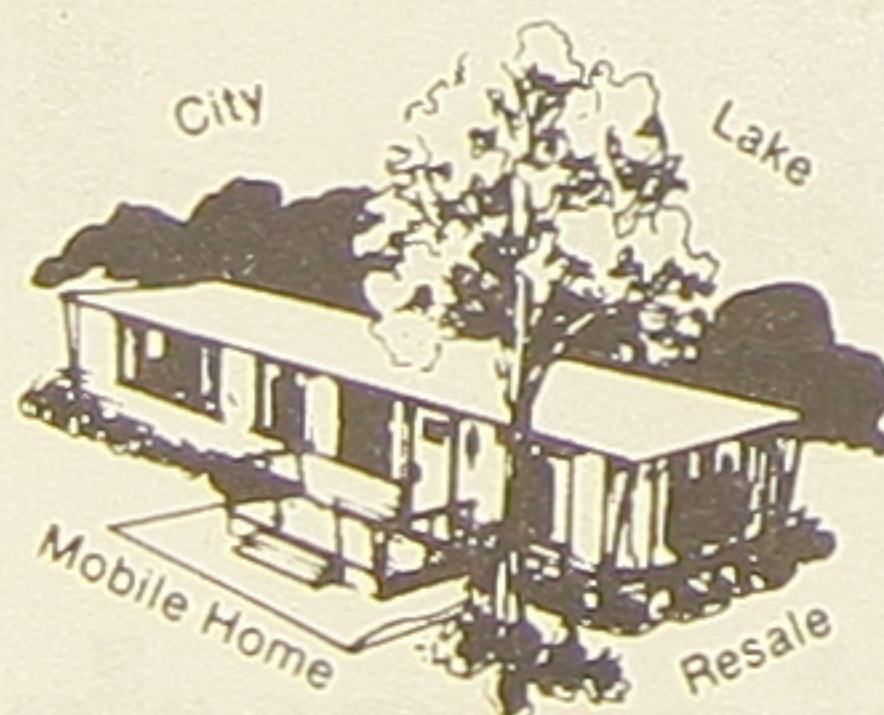
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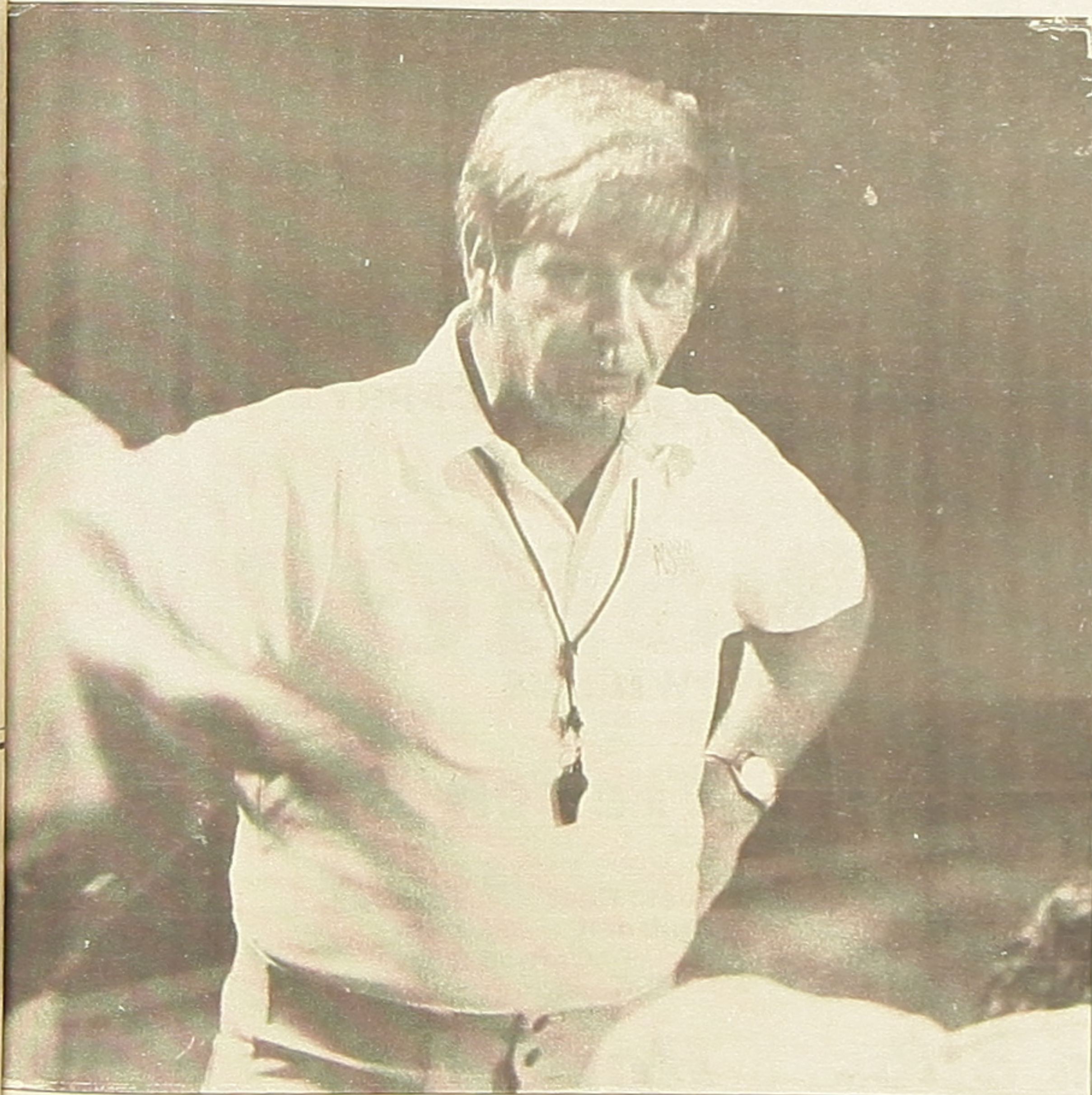
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Football



Jim Frazier

Frazier establishes tradition

Jim Frazier, only the third head football coach in Missouri Southern history, enters his 13th season having established a solid winning tradition for the Lions.

Frazier, who has a career coaching record of 76-43-6 at Southern, guided the Lions to the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Division II National Championship in 1972 — his second year in Joplin. Frazier, a former linebacker at Wichita State University, was named the NAIA Coach of the Year that season.

Frazier's philosophy behind the success of the 1972 team dealt with "the mood of the day. They were hungry. All they needed was someone to get them over the hump. It is tougher for me today than it was in 1972," he said.

After a rebuilding year in 1973, the Lions posted a cumulative 21-8-1 record from 1974-76. Southern was co-champion of the Central States Intercollegiate Conference in 1976, the inaugural season for the league. The CSIC, which consists of eight teams from Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, is now considered one of the top small college athletic conferences in the nation.

"The '75 football team had great potential," said Frazier. "1976 was a great team but politically were kept out of the playoffs."

He explained that they faced "lean" times because the recruiting was not good. "Poor recruiting doesn't catch up for two or three years."

After mediocre seasons from 1977-79, the Lions have rebounded during the last three years to post an overall 20-8-3 mark. Frazier shared CSIC Coach of the Year honors in 1982.

Throughout Southern's football history there have been four players named to the NAIA All-American team: Terron Jackson, offensive tackle, 1972; Willie Williams, offensive guard, 1976; Gary Embry, offensive tackle, 1978; and Joel Tupper, center, 1982.

Even though Frazier feels that the All-American selection is "political to too much of a degree," he agrees that there have been some outstanding players. "We're not in the business to make All-Americans. It is to get them educated and prepared for bigger and better things."

There have also been six men named to the honorable mention All-American team: Jack Duda, Barry Korner, and Jack Varnes, 1972; Larry Barnes, 1976; Kelly Saxton and Tom Fisher, 1980.

Family ties important to Frazier

Jim Frazier, Missouri Southern's head football coach, not only has long ideas on how to create a winning football team, but he also has definite views on family ties.

Frazier feels it is imperative for families to go back to being close. "It is good to go back," he said. "There are too many splinter activities in the family today. Economically it is better for the family to be close."

"Life has been pretty good to me, pretty simple. I had a good home life. I worked as a youngster all the way through."

Frazier grew up in McCune, Kan., a small community of less than 1,000. While attending Wichita State University he played linebacker for the football team. He was received his

bachelor of arts degree in 1963. From there he began coaching at Kingman (Kan.) High School. He went back to Wichita State to get his masters degree in 1965. In 1966 he became the defensive coordinator at Hastings College in Nebraska.

Even though his family knew what hard times were, they "never missed a meal. Hard times just don't happen — they are self-created. They're from not following the guidelines — the acceptable and unacceptable guidelines."

Loyalty, as Frazier explained, was another key aspect to the success of his family. He said a family must be loyal to each other.

Showing a philosophical side, he said that "life is many seasons." He went on to explain that people set goals and as these goals are reached

they need to be re-established. His goals are nearing the point at which they may be reviewed and possibly changed for the future.

His future goals will be influenced by his two teenage sons, Kent and Kevin. Frazier said, "They are demanding of my time. We operate a lot as a family. We enjoy outdoor activities. Our hobbies are hunting, fishing, and going to the lake on the weekends." He said that because their summers were short they vacationed during the winter.

Not only do his sons play an important role in influencing his goals, Frazier's two living grandmothers add to his feelings of responsibilities.

"I have a responsibility to them. They are at the age where we need to be around," he said.

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(Left) Head coach Jim Frazier and recruiting coordinator Dave Evans meet the Lions' offensive unit after a series of plays in last week's scrimmage in Coffeyville, Kan. (Below) Defensive back Glenn Baker will serve as Southern's holder on extra-point and field goal attempts this season.

CSIC title hopes to center around veteran nucleus

Missouri Southern's 1983 football team may just have the "stuff" that champions are made of. The coaching staff is counting on veteran players as the formula for that success.

With 12 returning seniors and seven starters on defense the team effort and game experience could jell into a Central States Intercollegiate Conference championship.

Some of the seniors to watch this year include Greg Brown, a 6-foot-5, 35-pound offensive tackle from Kenmore, N.Y. Brown stressed that his main concern this year will be to "win football games" for the Lions.

Bruce Long, a wide receiver from Kansas City, believes that "this could be the year we go all the way to the playoffs." He says "experience is going to be the key to our success."

Steve Sater, from nearby Mount Vernon, begins his third season with the Lions at defensive halfback. He says "the team seems to be very dedicated" and "the two-a-day practices have been very positive."

Aaron Usher, a 6-0, 224-pound offensive guard from Wichita, predicts low-scoring games for our opponents. He feels the three toughest games will come from Wichita State University, Kearney State, and rival Pittsburg State University.

Richard Skaggs, a 6-6, 230-pound offensive tackle from O'Fallon, Mo., feels the Lions will play as a team on

the basis of their experience. Skaggs predicts a possible conference championship and playoff berth for Southern.

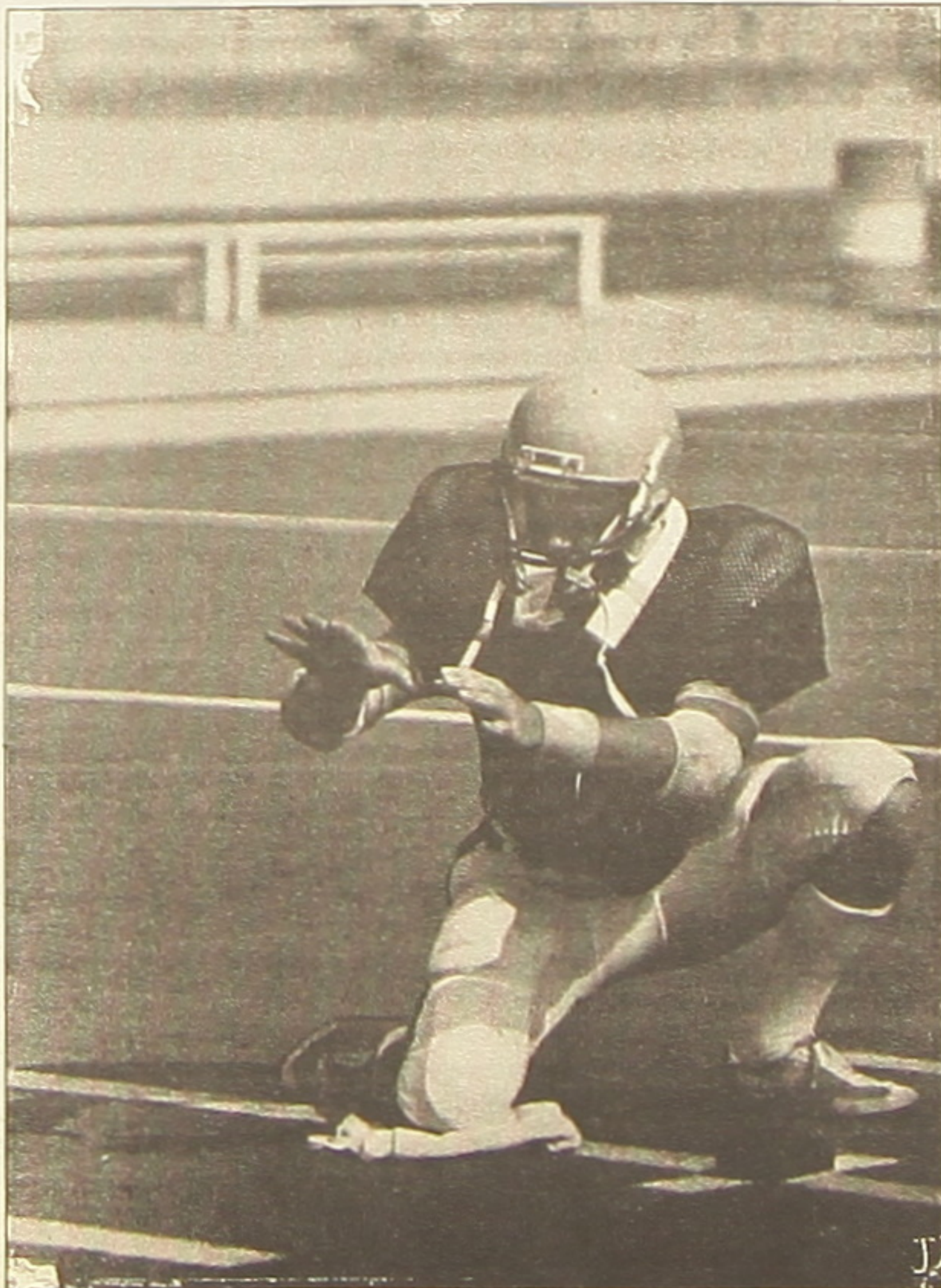
The goals for Billy Jack Smith, a 6-5, 290-pound offensive tackle from Poteau, Okla., are to win the conference title and reach the playoffs.

Harold Noirfalise, a 6-2, 220-pound junior from Houston, Mo., is the CSIC's premier running back. Noirfalise already has over 2,000 yards rushing in his career with the Lions and figures to become Southern's all-time leading ground gainer sometime next season.

Glenn Baker, a senior safety from Mascoutah, Ill., started every game for the Lions last season. He was named to the all-CSIC first team.

Alan Dunaway, a senior safety from Carl Junction, led the Lions in interceptions in 1982 and is looking forward to having an even better year in 1983. A team leader and hard-hitting tackler, Dunaway is one of the keys to the Southern defense.

These are but a few of the outstanding athletes on this year's squad. Those who will emerge as standouts this year remain to be seen. What this season holds has yet to be determined, but if size, depth, experience, and a good positive attitude have any bearing, then this could be the year the Missouri Southern Lions emerge as the CSIC champions.





Coach lectures to the offensive unit as probable starting quarterback Jeff Kilbane listens.

'Challenging season lies ahead for Lions

Southern is facing a "very challenging" football season, explained Coach Jim Frazier, head coach. "We have the chance to be a very good football team."

The Lions' first challenge of the year is at Wichita State University on Saturday.

"I just want us to play the best game that we can play," said Frazier. "This game is good for MSSC and the players. I'm excited about it. It gives players the chance to flex their wings with a Division I team. There is an ego factor involved — it makes Missouri Southern and the football program a different guy on the block."

The Wichita State game is unlike any other game in the respect that Southern will receive \$25,000 from the Shockers. Two years ago in the Southern-Wichita State game, the Lions lost 38-6, but received \$15,000.

"This is the type of game to make purchases to help in educating the players that our new budget does not allow for," said Frazier.

Missouri Western is another "rival." Frazier said the Griffons have good personnel. "It's one of how much character and self control we can get to perform well each and every week."

"The one thing I want is the hunger for victory. We haven't missed enough meals. Twelve years ago we had the hunger for a successful year. It's got to be re-established — from the seniors."

One thing that Frazier feels is lacking is the support of the college faculty. "It is a carry-over from 1968 and 1969," he said. Frazier explained that the faculty is not well enough informed as to what is going on.

Coverage of all the football games will be broadcast by radio station WMBH. Frazier sees it as "a step to help sell Missouri Southern, not to lose money."

Frazier has six assistant coaches. Rod Giesselmann, defensive coordinator, is starting his fifth year with the Lions. Dave Evans, offensive coordinator and recruiting coordinator, joined the Lions in January, 1982, from Northwest Missouri State University. Warren Turner, assistant coach in charge of the offensive line. He is also the head baseball coach for Southern. Dan Scheible, inside-outside linebacker coach and strength coach, joined Southern last spring. Frank Crosson, head freshman coach and defensive line coach, has been with Southern since 1980. Kevin Lampert, head athletic trainer, has developed the athletic training program since 1978.

In the Central States Intercollegiate Conference pre-season poll of head coaches, Southern was picked to win the league title.

"The pre-season poll is for publicity to generate interest," said Frazier. "When you understand the purpose of the poll, there is no validity in it. Southern should have won the conference the last two years, but we didn't have the maturity to get through an 11 or 12-game schedule."

"If we are allowed the maturity, we will be in the market place. It goes back to how we handled the situation — we didn't handle them well."

Frazier wants to improve the athletes' study hall and strength programs and build a strong junior varsity program.

Missouri Southern Lions

1983 Football Schedule

9/3	Wichita State University	There	7:30
9/10	Central Missouri State	Here	7:30
9/17	Evangel College	There	1:30
9/24	Northwest Oklahoma State	Here	7:30
*10/1	Pittsburg State University	There	7:30
*10/8	Emporia State University	Here	7:30
*10/15	Kearney State University	There	1:30
*10/22	Mo. Western—Homecoming	Here	1:30
*10/29	Fort Hays State University	Here	1:30
*11/5	Wayne State University	There	1:30
*11/12	Washburn University	There	1:30

*Central State Intercollegiate Conference Game



Coach Jim Frazier shouts encouragement to the offensive unit.

Soccer

Soccer is lifetime activity for German coach

Few individuals can match the record Dr. Hal Bodon, assistant professor of foreign languages and head soccer coach of Missouri Southern, has achieved in the area of soccer during his lifetime.

Bodon, who is originally from the city of Stuttgart in Germany, has made soccer an important part of his life since childhood. Among his most noteworthy accomplishments is the organization of the soccer program at Brigham Young University in 1956. Though he has not actively participated in a soccer game for some time, he has remained energetic in organizing and coaching for many years.

Bodon was born and reared in Germany during World War II. "I went to elementary and secondary schools in Germany," he said. "I lived there nine years during the war. The years immediately following the war were the roughest ones, especially in '47."

Bodon was active in soccer in these early years. "That was all we played in Germany," he said. "I've always liked the idea of team sports. I played soc-

cer on high school teams."

In 1952 his family immigrated from Germany to the United States.

"We lived in Salt Lake City, Utah, the first seven years," Bodon said. Bodon started the soccer program at Brigham Young University and played for two years. He received a bachelor of arts degree in French and history from the University of Utah in 1959.

While in Utah, he played for the S. E. Germania Soccer League and helped organize several leagues.

Bodon then moved to California where he worked on a master's degree in educational administration at California State University, Hayward. While living in California, he taught high school.

"I taught seven years at Newark High School in Newark, Cal., and two years at Brigham Young. At Newark I started coaching soccer," he said.

In the mid-60's, Bodon moved back to Utah after completing his master's degree.

Bodon joined the staff at Missouri Southern in 1971. In 1972, he organized the soccer program.

"I enjoy living in Joplin because it is very similar to Southern Germany where I grew up," he said. "I enjoy smaller college settings. You are closer to the students. We have beautiful facilities and an excellent faculty."

While in Joplin, Bodon has helped with the organizing of soccer at the community level.

"We started the program here in Joplin through the YMCA in 1973," Bodon said. "We started out with 28 players and now have over 1,000." This organization is now affiliated with Boy's Club of Joplin.

"I also organized the Greater Ozarks Soccer Association four years ago," he said. "It was started to provide greater organization in handling the soccer program."

While at Southern, Bodon has coached the Lions' soccer team through nine consecutive winning seasons.

Outside of teaching and coaching, Bodon is active in church. "Most of my spare time is spent in church work. I am active with the Latter Day Saints (LDS) church," said Bodon. "It

keeps me busy on Sundays. Generally, I prepare talks and do other church assignments."

Bodon, who is fluent in French, German, and English, also has studied other languages.

"I can speak French, German, and English," he said. "I've also studied Spanish, Russian, Italian, and Latin. The more you learn, the more you become aware of other languages."

He finds French to be the most challenging because "it is so unphonetic. You never write what you say or mean what you write."

Bodon and his wife have two sons. "Both of our sons went to high school and college here," he said. "Peter is in graduate school at the University of Utah and Mike is on mission for LDS church in Palm Springs with the Spanish-speaking people."

Bodon is excited about the reputation Southern's soccer team has earned over the years. "We have an excellent schedule. Our facilities are among the best in the state," he said. "The academic programs here are excellent. I can't see any school with that many advantages."

Freshman dominate roster

This year's Missouri Southern soccer team will be striving for a 10th winning season under the direction of Coach Hal Bodon. Though the season is tough and the team is young, Bodon is optimistic for a good season. "I think the word that would best describe this year's team is *young*," Bodon said. "We have 13 freshmen on a 23-player roster. We know we are going to make some rookie mistakes. If we can stay away from the injuries, we will have a very strong top player roster," he said. "We are young but inexperienced. If they can play like the pros, we won't have to worry."

Bodon's opinion, desire and enthusiasm are strengths this team has. "We have desire and enthusiasm, and team spirit are strong," he said. "We have excellent cooperation from players. I think it is very important that players stick together hard and get along, especially with such a young team. The tri-captains play an important role in team organization, and Bodon feels strength in this year's leaders.

Gabe Logan, Mike Bryson, and Stefano are the tri-captains," he said. "They do the practices, handle scheduling and warm-ups, and handle all leadership responsibilities. They intercede between players and coaches. They serve as my assistant coaches."

Bodon sees that several players are showing promise for the upcoming

season. Among them are the team's only two seniors, Logan and Rick Pearson.

"Our two seniors are doing well, and also John Crimmons. Bryson was last year's leading scorer and made second team all-district. He should do well."

Several sophomores and freshmen are also looking good in Bodon's opinion.

Bodon feels that this year the team has good passing and ball control. "The question will be how long can we keep possession of the ball. We have a good passing team," he said.

This season includes 19 games, 12 of which are on the road. "This aspect I don't like. Games on the road are always tough," he said.

Big matches this season include all of the NAIA District 16 games. "We are interested in district playoffs," Bodon said. "Every one of the district games is a big one."

Bodon also sees that the games with the University of Missouri-Rolla and Harris-Stowe State College will be challenges for the team.

The Lions have also been invited to play in the Budweiser Classic at the University of Missouri-St. Louis Oct. 4.

"We have had nine winning seasons, and we are working on No. 10," said Bodon. "It will be tough because of inexperience and away games. I feel good. We have stayed away from injuries. The kids are enthusiastic. We are ready for a good season."



Dr. Hal Bodon

Old-timers return Saturday

The sixth annual Missouri Southern Alumni soccer game will be held at 1:30 p.m. Saturday on the soccer field.

Coach Hal Bodon's varsity squad will be seeking its sixth straight victory against the alumni, coached by Larry Cowger. The varsity prevailed 3-1 last year, 2-1 in 1981, 6-2 in 1980, 7-2 in 1979, and 11-1 in 1978.

Chuck Womack, one of the Lions' tri-captains in 1982, will be playing for the alumni. Former NAIA All-Americans George Major and Ron Behnen and former District 16 selections Rob Lonigro, Tim Behnen, Cary Maloney, Chuck Valentine, and Mike Edwards will also participate.

Soccer program obtains national recognition

Soccer at Missouri Southern has developed into a nationally recognized varsity sport in a relatively short period since its introduction in 1972 as a spring intramural league.

Dr. Harold Bodon, associate professor of foreign languages, organized that first year of intramurals and has been Southern's soccer coach ever since.

"I was hoping there would be some soccer in the area because I like to watch it," said Bodon concerning his decision to come to Missouri Southern. But he had no plans of starting a program at that time.

When he saw the soccer goals behind the college he thought, "for once I can go to a school where I don't have to start a program."

Upon inquiring about the goals he was informed by Mike Bogart, department chairman of physical education at that time, that the goals were only used for classes. This is when Dr. Bodon decided to organize soccer intramurals.

"We had four good teams and that provided the nucleus for our team that fall," said Bodon. Thus, in the fall of 1972, Missouri Southern supported a club team that finished the season with one win, nine losses, and three ties.

Three years later, the final year as a club sport, the team finished with 14 wins and two losses. And over the years Southern has compiled 132 wins, 63 losses, and 24 ties which boasts a 67 per cent plus winning percentage.

Throughout Southern's participation in soccer, the opponents have remained the same. This shows the gradual ascent that Missouri Southern has made to a position of prominence in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics soccer standings.

In the last six years Southern has been ranked in the NAIA's national top 20, reaching 10th position at one time.

"It took us five years," said

Bodon, "to make it to the NAIA District 16 playoffs. We have been in the top four or five every year since." Bodon went on to explain that there are now 12 schools in the District 16 area supporting soccer programs and only the top four teams participate in playoffs.

This is the eighth year Missouri Southern's soccer program has been at the varsity level and in the last seven years the team has been in those playoffs four times.

Two Southern players have been named All-American, and one of those received the honor twice. George Major was named in his junior and senior years for his play as goalie. Major was also selected to play for the West team in the East-West College All-Star game in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. in 1980. He was one of only three NAIA players chosen for that game.

Ron Behnen was named All-American as a senior in 1979 for his defensive play.

Southern's soccer teams have produced 11 All-Midwest selections and 26 All-District picks.

Recruiting helped to build the soccer program, especially in the earlier years. "In 1973 and '74 I started contacting schools in St. Louis. St. Louis and Sedalia have always been good recruiting areas," explained Bodon.

"In 1974 Dennis and Aaron Johnson were recruited from Sedalia. Today they still hold first and second positions on Missouri Southern's all-time scoring list: Dennis with 41 goals and Aaron with 38."

Coach Bodon's first recruit was Mike Edwards from Vashon High School in St. Louis. He is on the all-time scoring leaders list in the fifth position with 31 goals.

"This year we have two recruits from Sedalia and one of our captains, Mike Bryson, is from Sedalia," said Bodon. Bryson currently stands ninth among all-time scoring leaders with 21 goals.

Although Bodon's only foreign recruit was Alberto Escobar from Colombia, several other foreign players have been on the team.

Escobar was recruited through Richard Finton, associate professor of communications. Finton met Alberto in Kansas City where he was coaching the Carson-Newman College tennis team in a national tournament.

Finton had signed a contract to teach at Missouri Southern and told Escobar about the soccer program. Finton wrote down Escobar's address and gave it to Bodon upon returning to Southern. Eventually, Escobar came to Southern and now he is seventh among Southern's all-time scorers.

Foreign players that were not recruited, but played soccer include: Wilson Ogunbode, from Nigeria, who is remembered for scoring three goals in the final game of Southern's first season which ended in a 3-3 tie with Oral Roberts University in Tulsa. Rob "Mouse" Ward, from Germany, whose nickname gave clue to his size, scored Southern's first two goals ever and led the team to a 2-2 tie against Southwest Missouri State University.

Scholarships have helped Bodon in recruiting also. The soccer team has three scholarships. Bodon said, "We try to divide them up to help as many players as we can."

"I think the Regents scholarship program has helped us a great deal," added Bodon. Five of the 23 players currently on the team roster are on Regents scholarships which can be held for four years if the athlete maintains a 3.0 grade point average.

Bodon feels that the Missouri Southern soccer program's national recognition can also be attributed to the fact that Southern has had input in policy making through his executive positions in the National Soccer Coaches Association of America and the NAIA.



Goalie Rick Pierson returns to the Lions' soccer camp week after visiting with coach Hal Bodon. Pierson was on Southern squad last season but saw limited playing time. Pierson figures to be starting goalie this year.

Sept. 3	Alumni	HOME	1:30
Sept. 7	William Jewell	There	3:30
Sept. 10	Central Methodist	HOME	1:30
Sept. 12	Ottawa	There	3:30
Sept. 20	Rockhurst	There	3:30
Sept. 22	UM-Rolla	HOME	3:30
Sept. 24	Harris-Stowe	HOME	1:30
Sept. 27	Park	There	3:00
Sept. 30	St. John's	HOME	3:30
Oct. 4	Northeastern Okla.	HOME	3:30
	Budweiser Classic	St. Louis	
Oct. 7	Benedictine	5:00	

Soccer Lions 1983 Schedule

Oct. 8	Loser vs Loser		5:00
	Winner vs Winner		7:00
Oct. 12	John Brown	There	3:00
Oct. 14	Lindenwood	There	7:00
Oct. 15	Westminster	There	1:00
Oct. 18	NEO A & M	HOME	3:30
Oct. 21	Northwest Missouri	There	4:00
Oct. 22	Tarkio	There	1:30
Oct. 26	Bethany Nazarene	HOME	3:30
Oct. 29	Southwest Missouri	There	1:30

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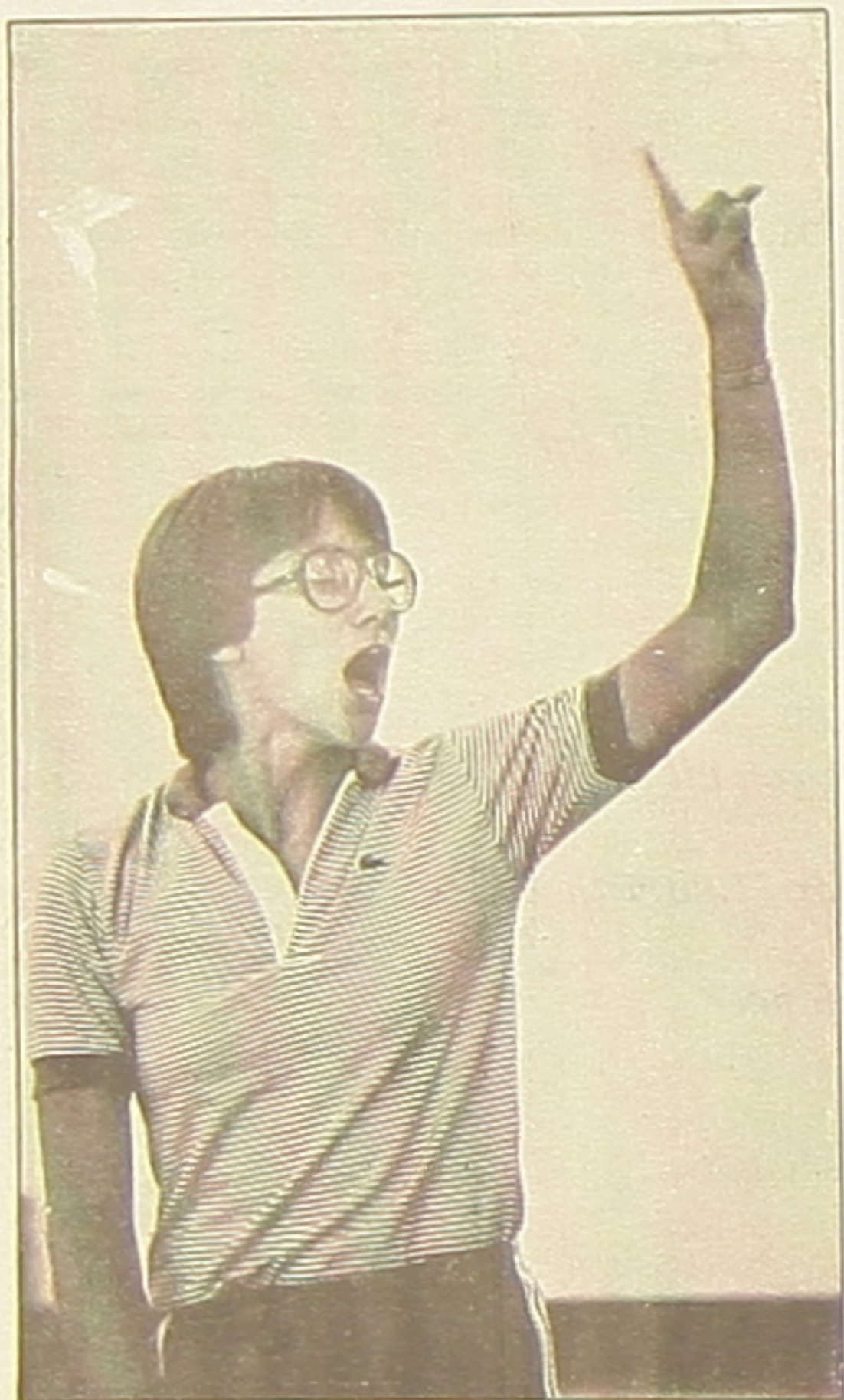
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Pat Lipira

Volleyball

Teaching and coaching...

Lipira achieves goals at Southern

Teaching and coaching at the college level are two goals Pat Lipira has always wanted to reach. As head volleyball coach and physical education instructor at Missouri Southern, she is currently fulfilling her goals.

Lipira, who is beginning her third year at Southern, has always been surrounded by athletics.

"When I was young, I was around sports year-round," she said. "My big thing was baseball. My dad coached a team and my brother played. We were all interested in sports — it was always on the TV."

Lipira grew up in St. Joseph, Mo., and attended high school there. Though school-sponsored women's athletic programs were not established there, she participated in sports through other areas.

"They didn't have athletics for women, so I participated in interschool athletics," she said. "The women's athletic program started the year after I left."

Her hopes of teaching and coaching were further stimulated by high

school physical education teachers she had.

"In high school, we were able to be assistants under the coaches. They gave me responsibilities that I felt I was very capable of doing. Through this I developed confidence in physical education," she said.

She received a bachelor's degree in physical education and mathematics from Northwest Missouri State University. She then went to Liberty, Mo., where she taught math and coached volleyball and track at the high school for two years.

While at Liberty, she knew she wanted to teach at a higher level than high school. "I always knew in the back of my mind that I wanted to teach and coach at the college level," she said.

Lipira then went to Kansas State University where while serving as a graduate assistant, she earned a master's degree in physical education.

"After getting my master's I wanted to make myself available at

the college level," Lipira said. She joined the coaching staff at Missouri Southern in the fall of 1981.

At Southern, her responsibilities include her original goals of teaching and coaching. "Here, I am head coach of volleyball and softball," she said. "I also do the recruiting and scheduling." Lipira also teaches fundamental majors courses and physical education.

Lipira gets gratification from teaching and coaching at Missouri Southern.

"I have a strong feeling about teaching and coaching. I'm glad I am at a small college where I can do both," she said. "I enjoy teaching, where you deal with 90 per cent of the students, and also coaching, where you deal with a small group of extremely talented athletes."

Lipira went on to stress that teaching and coaching are entirely different areas.

"They are two entirely different challenges," she said. "With coaching,

you are dealing with short term maximum performance, skill level and excelling. With teaching, you are dealing with long-term objectives. Here my goal becomes educating students in life."

Lipira hopes to leave the people she teaches and coaches with good feelings of the importance of personal fitness.

"For my students, I hope to leave them with a notion of fitness," she said. "Lifetime fitness is extremely important. I hope the students choose to be active. With my athletic philosophy is for them to be satisfied with their performance. I feel they should reach their potential and be satisfied."

Though she has reached her personal goals, Lipira is somewhat interested in reaching higher ones.

"This is the thing I've always wanted — it's my goal. Now that I'm here, I enjoy it and am happy. I may set a higher goal later for teaching and coaching at bigger schools."

nly a few games at home...

Lady Lions to spend majority of time on road

Head volleyball coach Pat Lipira said the Lady Lions are preparing for a schedule of games and tournaments for the upcoming 1983 season.

"I feel very confident that we can have a good season," Lipira said. "The girls look mature and we've only lost one player from last year."

Lipira, who is beginning her third year as head coach, is seeing many girls excel this year that she initially coached as freshmen.

"This year we have many juniors and I saw as talented freshmen my

first year. They are more mature," she said.

According to Lipira, "the key to our success this year are the setters." This season's returning setters to watch are junior Lisa Cunningham and senior Joanna Swearingin.

"I also have high hopes for senior Nancy Jordon," Lipira said. "Several juniors will also supply us with good hitting."

This season, the Lady Lions will spend a majority of time on the road, but Lipira feels the team plays better

out of town.

"We play better on the road. We play so few games here that we get nervous at home," Lipira said. "We get so accustomed to no one knowing us. As for the home-court advantage, there is none in volleyball."

Lipira feels the team has many strengths this season. "They've been playing together, and this is always a strength. Our setting, hitting, and offense are very strong this year," she said. "Our weakness is with defense."

Some of the tougher games of the

season will be the University of Missouri-St. Louis tournament, the Missouri Western State College tourney, and the Missouri Southern tourney Sept. 16-17.

"This season our weekends are packed with tournaments and conference games," she said. "The Southern tourney will be nice to see."

The Lady Lions will kick off the season with the Pittsburg State University tournament Sept. 9-10. The first home game will be Sept. 13 against School of the Ozarks.

Volleyball program serves many functions for women

Volleyball at Missouri Southern began in 1975 when several female athletes wanted a program and came to Sallie Beard, director of women's athletics. Since then, the team has had no losing seasons and has twice placed third in District 16 of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics.

"There was a basic group of female athletes who wanted the program," said Beard. "They came to me and through the administration we started the program."

The program's role at Southern serves as an outlet for students who want to expand in areas outside the classroom.

"I think it is another means for students to expand in extra-curricular activities," said Beard. "In some instances it is a way of providing an education (through scholarships) for those young ladies who may have trouble financially. It is not in any way designed to take away from classes."

Gerry Albins, Ce Ce Chamberlin, and present coach Pat Lipira are the coaches who have led the Lady Lions through eight consecutive successful seasons. According to Beard, the coaches have helped in improving the program.

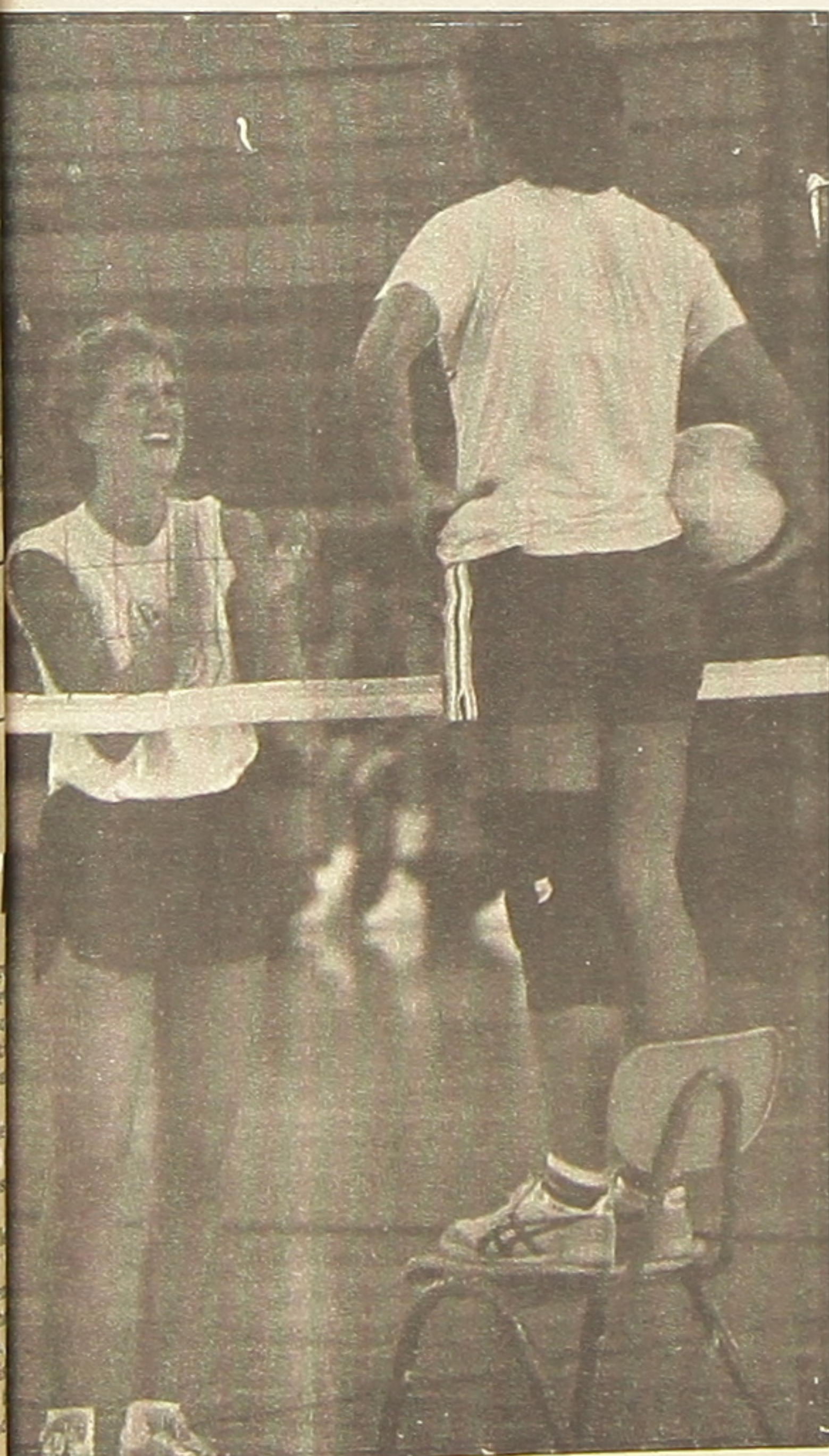
"Through each one of those coaches we saw our program develop," she said. "Each year we have seen an improvement in the quality of the players."

In Beard's view, the original team was also important in developing the program. "The first year we had several players who were basketball players. They took the volleyball program as a personal commitment. They wanted to improve it," Beard said.

The Lady Lions were ranked nationally several times during last year's season.

"Each year has been a high water mark for us," said Beard. "We were nationally ranked on and off during last year's season. Last year's team is basically this year's team, so they should have a good season."

In the years to come, Beard hopes the team will continue to improve consistently. "I hope to see a continuation of improvement. I think we have seen several years of balancing occur in the conference," Beard explained. "When the conference was initiated, there was an imbalance in talent. The talent is becoming more equal. I hope Missouri Southern will be competing with the power house teams on a consistent basis in the future."

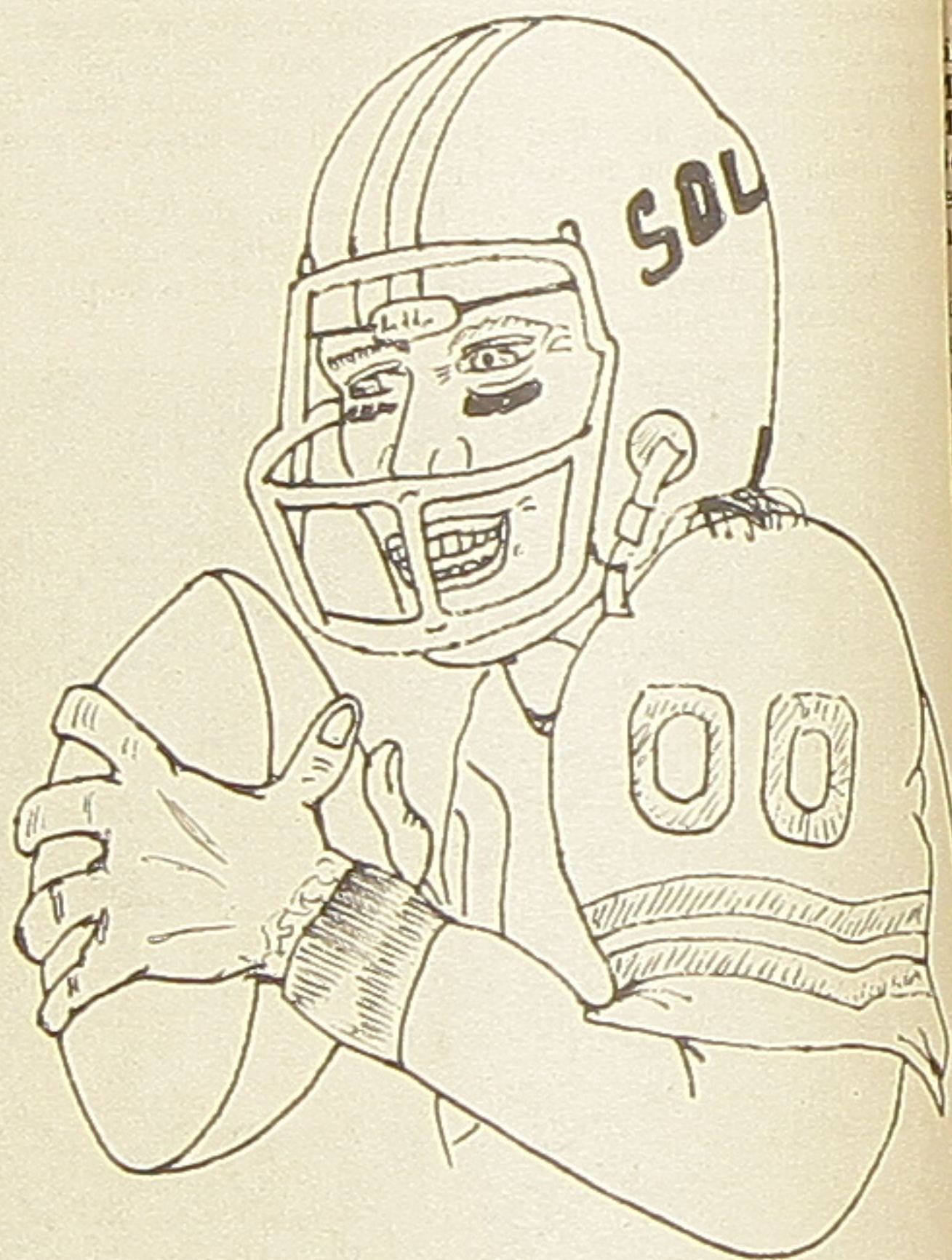
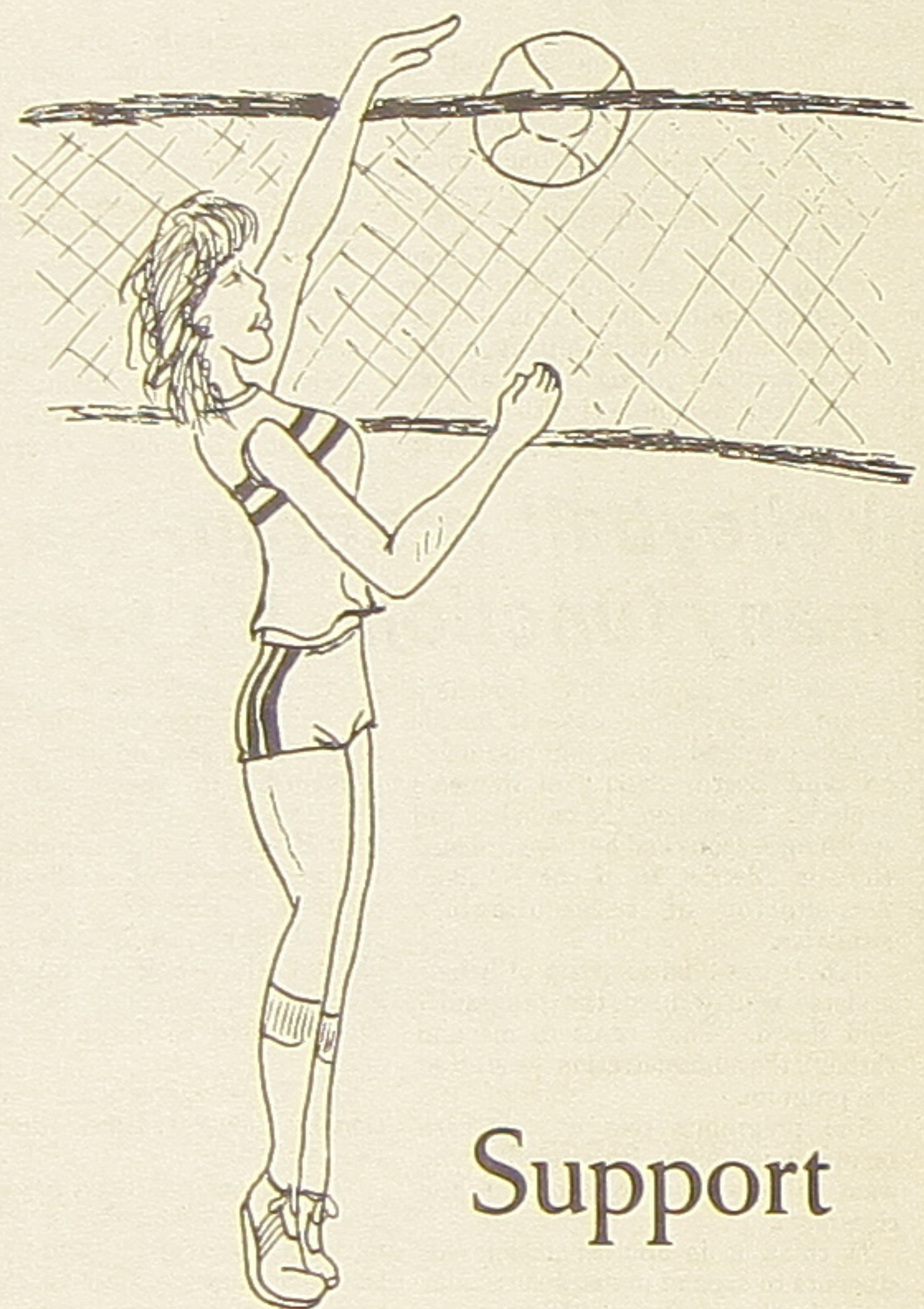


Fun at practice

Tina Roberts, junior, shares a moment of humor with Nancy Jordon, senior, during a recent volleyball practice. The Lady Lions will soon begin their ninth season trying to keep intact their no-losing-season tradition.

Lady Lions 1983 Volleyball Schedule

DATE	OPPONENT	PLACE	TIME
Sep. 9-10	P.S.U. Tourney	Pittsburg	TBA
Sep. 13	School of Ozarks	HOME	7:00
Sep. 16-17	MSSC Tourney	HOME	TBA
Sep. 21	Drury/Evangel	Springfield	7:00
Sep. 23-24	CSIC Competition	St. Joseph	7:30
Sep. 28	Pittsburg State	Pittsburg	7:00
Sep. 30-1	UMSL Tourney	St. Louis	TBA
Oct. 4	Southwest Baptist	Bolivar	7:00
Oct. 7-8	CSIC Competition	Wayne	7:30
Oct. 13	UMKC/Rockhurst	Kansas City	6:30
Oct. 14-15	MWSC Tourney	St. Joseph	TBA
Oct. 18	Pittsburg State	HOME	7:00
Oct. 21-22	CSIC Competition	Topeka	7:30
Oct. 25	Central Methodist	Fayette	6:30
	William Woods		
Oct. 28-29	CSIC Competition	HOME	6:00
Nov. 2	Drury College	HOME	7:00
Nov. 4-5	District 16 Tourney	St. Joseph	TBA
Nov. 9-12	Bi-District	TBA	TBA
Nov. 16-19	NAIA Nat'l Tourney	TBA	TBA



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